

NEWS RELEASE

*OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS*

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For Immediate Release

May 20, 2005

Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on May 3, 2005, **VINCENT D. WILLIAMS**, a/k/a “**Million Dollar Bill**,” age 39, and **BARBARA J. TIMMONS**, a/k/a “**BJ**,” age 40, both of Marion, Illinois, were indicted by a Federal Grand Jury sitting in Benton, Illinois, in a one-count indictment, charging them with conspiracy to distribute 5 grams or more of crack cocaine. The violation took place between August 2003, and April 18, 2005, in Williamson County. An indictment is a formal charge against a defendant. Under the law, a defendant is presumed to be innocent of a charge until proven guilty beyond a reasonable doubt to the satisfaction of a jury. WILLIAMS is being held without bond pending his July 11, 2005, jury trial. TIMMONS is being held on \$50,000 bond.

These charges carry a penalty of between 5 and 40 years’ imprisonment, a fine of up to \$2,000,000, and a term of 4 years’ supervised release.

Information for the indictment was obtained through the cooperative effort of the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, Marion Police Department, Williamson County Sheriff’s Department, Illinois State Police and Drug Enforcement Administration, pursuant to those agencies’ participation in the Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative in the Southern District of Illinois. In addition, the Williamson County States Attorney’s Office has assisted throughout the investigation. Under the Project Safe Neighborhoods Initiative, federal, state, and local law enforcement and prosecutors are working together to prosecute drug dealers, felons in possession of firearms, and criminals that use firearms to commit violent offenses or drug trafficking offenses.

The case is assigned to Assistant United States Attorney Amanda A. Robertson for prosecution.